



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

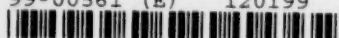
S/1999/31
11 January 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to notify you of continued violations of the ceasefire resolution and the Tehran agreement concerning the area of separation between Iraq and Iran that were committed by the Iranian side between 22 June and 7 December 1998, as shown in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative



Annex

Iranian violations of the ceasefire and the 1991 Tehran agreement,
22 June-7 December 1998

1. 22 June 1998

Civilian vehicles belonging to the Ali al-Gharbi district administration were in a wadi near the Iranian post opposite the Iraqi border observation post in the Ali al-Gharbi sector. At 1200 hours, after the civilian vehicles had withdrawn, the Iranian post directed intense fire at the Iraqi post.

2. 10 August 1998

At 1630 hours a helicopter was seen inside Iranian airspace at coordinates 450510 flying parallel to the Iranian shore of the Shatt al-Arab towards the Khosrowabad area at coordinates 520401 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). It then headed further inside Iranian territory.

3. 13 September 1998

The Iranians established a new military observation post on the Iranian shore of the Shatt al-Arab opposite the Fadaghiyah area at coordinates 518420 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). The post was manned by five persons.

4. 15 September 1998

The Iranians continued constructing the new building located opposite the Saybah area behind the earth embankment inside Iranian territory at coordinates 392580 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). Construction had begun on 30 July 1998, and work had subsequently been suspended. The structure is to be 25 metres long and 14 metres wide, and it is being built of bricks.

5. 12 October 1998

At 2400 hours the Iranians seized a number of Iraqi launches and fishing boats at the entry to the Shatt al-Arab near the Abadan headland at coordinates 8210 (1:100,000 map of Mina' al-Bakr) while they were fishing there. The number of boats and launches involved has yet to be determined.

6. 13 October 1998

The Iranians are establishing three or four additional observation posts in between the main posts opposite the Fadaghiyah area at coordinates 519410 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). In each of the new posts are four persons armed with light weapons. These posts are manned daily after dark, and they are vacated at first light. The Iranian side has also operated infantry and mechanized patrols near the embankment in the same area in order to strengthen its control of that zone.

7. 14 October 1998

At 1015 hours a khaki-coloured helicopter was seen heading from north to south at an altitude of 400 metres and at a distance of about 5 kilometres from the international boundary.

8. 14 October 1998

At 1215 hours a helicopter in mottled green and khaki camouflage was seen coming from inside Iranian territory and flying at an altitude of about 300 metres towards the Iranian post opposite the Fakkah post. It landed at coordinates 5251 between 1.5 and 2 kilometres from the international boundary. Four persons in military dress alighted from it, boarded a Land-Rover vehicle and headed towards the Iranian post. They then proceeded to the metal tower and observed our units from there. At 1330 hours the helicopter headed back inside Iranian territory.

9. 17 October 1998

The launch Al-Taysir, belonging to the agent Mansur Hassun, had a mishap at the entry to the Shatt al-Arab channel before it reached the Iranian inspection point. It took on water, and the crew members were forced to jettison the entire cargo. Private tugboats were sent to save the crew and take the launch under tow, but the Iranians intervened and opened fire on them and forced them to turn back. The launch is still at the entry to the Shatt al-Arab channel.

10. 28 October 1998

At 0900 hours the Iranians were seen building a hut near the border observation post to the right of the Mansuri post at coordinates 5741, some 500 metres from the international boundary.

11. 6 November 1998

At 1500 hours four open khaki-coloured jeeps, each mounting a 106-mm gun, and two empty khaki-coloured GMC vehicles were seen parked near the Iranian post in Abadan port at coordinates 410560. There were 15 persons in military attire with them.

12. 9 November 1998

At 1400 hours the Iranians completed construction of the new building begun on 30 July 1998 and located behind the earth embankment opposite the Saybah area inside Iranian territory at coordinates 239580 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). The building is to be used as a border post, and it was manned by eight persons armed with GC rifles.

13. 10 November 1998

At 1300 hours a group of 50 men and one woman was seen visiting the western shore in the Abadan area at coordinates 380590. They remained for one hour and then withdrew further inside Iranian territory.

14. 10 November 1998

At 1500 hours the Iranians replaced the 100-man force assigned to protect the Abadan refineries with another force and withdrew a 106-mm gun, a vehicle carrying a radar apparatus and an ambulance.

15. 13 November 1998

The Iranians reinforced their position in Abadan port at coordinates 410560 so that there were eight jeeps instead of four, six of them mounting a 106-mm gun, one of them carrying a radar apparatus and one of them empty. At 1600 hours on 19 November the six jeeps with the 106-mm guns were seen withdrawing from Abadan refinery further inside Iranian territory.

16. 21 November 1998

Seven Iraqi fishermen on boat No. 5384/Basrah, nine on Al-Muhajir and six on Al-Hasan were returning from work inside our territorial waters in the area near Khawr al-Amayah port when they were intercepted by an Iranian naval patrol consisting of four armed men. The fishermen, who had not crossed the international boundary, had their documents confiscated.

17. 25 November 1998

At 0900 hours the Iranians erected a 30-metre-high communications tower opposite the Mutawwa'ah area at coordinates 302668 (1:100,000 map of Saybah), some 500 metres from the Iranian embankment.

18. 7 December 1998

Launch No. 250 was searched by the Iranian patrols and the identity documents and seamen's papers of the seven fishermen on board were taken.

19. 7 December 1998

At 1330 hours an Iranian boat was seen coming from the sea towards Abadan with 15 persons on board. Seven of them were wearing civilian clothing and eight were in military uniform and armed with GC rifles. Using a video camera, they filmed the Iraqi shore from the Shatt al-Arab between the Mu'amir area at coordinates 520305 and the Dawrah area at coordinates 482360 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/32
12 January 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 12 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward the attached press statement on Ethiopia's preparations for war, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea on 12 January 1999.

Ethiopia's opting for war comes at a time when discussions on the basis of the Organization of African Unity proposals for a framework agreement are in process for a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement made on 12 January 1999 by the Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Eritrea on Ethiopia's preparations for war

News leaked by various sources, including Western intelligence sources, report that the Ethiopian Government will launch attacks against Eritrea between mid January and mid February along three directions.

Meanwhile, efforts are under way by United States officials to ascertain whether the air moratorium still holds.

The Government of Eritrea has always maintained that both parties must renounce force as a means of settling their border dispute. It has repeatedly affirmed that what is needed is a binding agreement on a cessation of all hostilities, including a total ban on air strikes. The Ethiopian Government, however, has been adamantly opposed to a cessation of hostilities, even to a ban on air attacks. The result of accepting Ethiopia's condition is a precarious "moratorium" which it can unilaterally break at a time of its choosing.

Ethiopia's repeatedly declared intent to launch war is by now widely known. While anyone is free to speculate about the outcome of any such war, it is highly unfortunate that Ethiopia has been helped in its belligerent attitude by extraneous circumstances and misguided parties.

The Government of Eritrea has never considered - and does not consider - war as an option. It realizes full well that war cannot resolve the dispute. But if it is attacked, it reserves its legitimate right to self-defence. In that event, it is the Government of Ethiopia which bears full responsibility.



General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/792
S/1999/33
12 January 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 40
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 11 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of
Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in December 1998.

1 December 1998

Between 0730 and 0900 hours occupying Israeli forces and the client Lahad militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 12-mm mortar shells at the outskirts of Luwayzah and at Mazra'at Uqmata, Mlita hill, Jabal Safi and Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Zafatah, Ksar al-Urush, Bi'r Kilab and Hula.

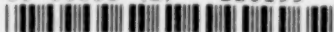
Between 1300 and 1600 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

Between 1850 and 2040 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells and direct-fire projectiles at outlying areas of Jarju' and at Jabal Sujud and Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Zafatah and Ksar al-Urush.

Between 2040 and 2200 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area at high altitude.

2 December 1998

Between 0100 and 0350 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Haddatha and Rshaf from its positions at Shaqif al-Naml and Ruways.



Between 0450 and 0600 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1000 and 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the Bekaa, the Shuf and Alayh at various altitudes.

At 1920 hours the client militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at areas around its positions in Kurum al-Arz.

3 December 1998

Between 1000 and 1230 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Western Bekaa, the South and the Shuf at high altitudes.

Between 1540 and 1630 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Tyre and Tibnin areas at high altitude.

At 1745 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1750 and 2130 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Mlita hill, areas along the Tasah Spring, Jabal Rafi' and outlying areas of Rshaf and Tiri from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Saff al-Hawa, Ksar al-Urush, Sujud and Rayhan.

4 December 1998

Between 0730 and 0830 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at the outskirts of Luwayzah, Mazra'at Uqmata, Mlita hill, Jabal Safi and Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Zafatah, Ksar al-Urush, Bi'r Kilab and Hula.

Between 1315 and 1620 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at areas around their positions at Ksar al-Urush and on Sujud and Radar hills.

Between 1850 and 2100 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jarju' and areas along the Tasah Spring from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Zafatah and Ksar al-Urush.

5 December 1998

Between 1000 and 1230 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Western Bekaa, the South and the Shuf at high altitudes.

Between 1540 and 1630 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Tyre and Tibnin areas at high altitude, and Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar and Jibal al-Butm from a position at Bustan inside occupied Palestine.

At 1745 hours three Israeli gunboats off Rashidiyah camp fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1750 and 2130 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire projectiles at Mlita hill, areas along the Tasah Spring, the outskirts of Sujud and Ksarat al-Urush, Jabal al-Rafi', outlying areas of Rshaf and Tiri, and Mazra'at al-Hamra from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Saff al-Hawa, Ksarat al-Urush, Sujud, Rayhan and Zafatah.

6 December 1998

Between 0100 and 0700 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the lowland area between Yuhmur and Mazra'at al-Hamra from its position at Zafatah.

Between 0400 and 0600 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1000 and 1235 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the Western Bekaa, the Shuf and Alayh at various altitudes.

Between 1215 and 1610 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and the coastal area of the Shuf at various altitudes and carried out mock attacks over Jabal al-Rafi' and Jabal Sujud.

At 1920 hours the client militia fired two 81-mm mortar shells at the area around its position in Kurum al-Arz from its position on Tahrah hill.

Between 2015 and 2115 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah and outlying areas of Khirbat Silm from their positions at Tall Ya'qub and Zafatah.

7 December 1998

Between 0030 and 0530 hours the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha, Rshaf, Tiri and Bra'shit from its positions at Brak al-Hajj, Ruwaysat al-Jamus and Shaqif al-Naml.

Between 0430 and 0535 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 1250 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Qilya and Dallafah at various altitudes.

At 1530 hours the client militia fired three direct-fire projectiles at outlying areas of Arabsalim from its position on Tahrah hill.

8 December 1998

Between 0500 and 0530 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1610 and 2100 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas along the Zahrani River, Jabal

al-Rafi', Mazra'at Uqmata and Rum hill from their positions at Zafatah, Rum hill, Ksar al-Urush and Sujud and Razlan hills.

Between 1740 and 1925 hours the client militia fired 10 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal Abu Rashid from its position on Ahmadiyah hill.

At 2225 hours Israeli forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah from their position at Bawabat Mays al-Jabal.

9 December 1998

Between 0815 and 1200 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from their positions at Ksar al-Urush, Zafatah, Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort) and Rum hill.

Between 1015 and 1140 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, Mount Lebanon and the Western Bekaa at high and low altitudes while breaking the sound barrier.

Between 1305 and 1335 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Zibqin and Majdal Zun from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from a point inside Israeli territory to the south of Bustan.

Between 1640 and 1650 hours Israeli forces south of Bustan fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm and Zibqin.

At 1205 hours Israeli forces fired 15 155-mm artillery shells at areas along the Litani River from their position at Abu Qamhah.

10 December 1998

Between 0430 and 0600 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0945 and 1155 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at Sujud hill and areas along the Tasah Spring from their positions at Zafatah, Ksar al-Urush and Bi'r Kilab.

Between 1300 and 1345 hours Israeli forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Zibqin, Jibal al-Butm, Mjadal Zun and Mansuri from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from inside the occupied Palestinian territory.

Between 1745 and 2315 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and Mount Lebanon at high altitudes, dropping illumination flares in the Zahrani and Na'imah areas.

11 December 1998

Between 1100 and 1130 hours an Israeli aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah area at high altitude.

At 1110 hours the client militia fired three 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha and Rshaf from its position at Saff al-Hawa.

Between 1220 and 1325 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas at high altitude.

Between 1515 and 1615 hours Israeli forces fired several 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Yatar from their position at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and from inside the occupied territory.

Between 2010 and 2015 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired nine 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Qaysiyah and outlying areas of Haddatha from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Shaqif al-Naml.

12 December 1998

Between 1230 and 1310 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha and Yatar from their positions at Shaqif al-Naml and Bawwabat Yarin.

Between 1325 and 1350 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Sidon and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas at high altitudes, and Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and the area around Sujud hill from their positions at Shurayfah and on the Razlan hills.

Between 1800 and 1915 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi', the Yuhmur lowland, Shaqif, Mazra'at al-Hamra and outlying areas of Majdal Zun from their positions at Shurayfah, Tall Ya'qub, Markaba, Bayt Yahun and Shaqif al-Naml.

13 December 1998

For unknown reasons, the client militia's Bayt Yahun crossing remained closed to passage in both directions.

Between 0800 and 1200 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired four 155-mm artillery shells and three direct-fire projectiles at Wadi al-Hujayr and outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Yuhmur from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Sal'ah and Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort).

At 1230 hours Israeli warplanes attacked areas along the Litani River, firing 12 air-to-surface missiles.

Between 1405 and 1545 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Zibqin and Jibal al-Butm from their positions at Tall Ya'qub and Ksar al-Urush.

Between 2235 and 2310 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the area to the east of Sidon at high altitude.

14 December 1998

Between 0300 and 0530 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 1000 and 1230 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Shaqra, Majdal Zun, Ayn Bu Siwar, Jarju' and Mlikh from their positions at Shurayfah, Zafatah and Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and on Razlan hill.

Between 1235 and 1345 hours Israeli forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Mansuri, Majdal Zun, Haddatha and Haris from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

15 December 1998

At 1430 hours Israeli forces fired three 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Majdal Zun and Mansuri from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

At 1605 hours the client militia directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas around the Anan pool from its position on Anan hill.

At 1740 hours the client militia fired three 155-mm artillery shells at the area around the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah from its position at Zafatah.

Between 2040 and 2055 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired five 155-mm artillery shells and four 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Tiri and Haddatha from their positions at Tall Ya'qub and Ruwaysat al-Jamus.

16 December 1998

Between 1050 and 1130 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and the Shuf at high altitudes.

Between 1325 and 1350 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Jibal al-Butm and Majdal Zun from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from Bawwabat al-Bustan, inside the occupied territory.

At 1505 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at Mazra'at Uqmata and areas along the Tasah Spring from their positions at Bi'r Kilab and Ksar al-Urush.

Between 1700 and 2000 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the South at high altitude.

At 1740 hours Israeli forces fired seven 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Shaqra and Majdal Silm from their position at Bawwabat Kawkaba.

17 December 1998

Between 0015 and 0430 hours Israeli forces fired several 81-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas around Qasr Ghandur and the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa from their position on Dabshah hill.

Between 1130 and 1200 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the area to the east of Sidon at high altitude.

Between 1300 and 1320 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at the outskirts of Yatar, Majdal Zun and Hinniyah from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from a point south of Bustan inside the occupied territory.

Between 1620 and 1740 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Jba' from its position at Zafatah.

18 December 1998

At 0445 hours Israeli forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

At 0630 hours Israeli forces fired several 81-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas around their position on Dabshah hill.

Between 1255 and 1325 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Mansuri, Zibqin, Majdal Zun and Jabal al-Rafi' from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from Bustan, inside Israeli territory.

At 1930 hours an Israeli gunboat off Rashidiyah fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 2000 hours the client militia fired three rocket-propelled grenades at the Mays wadi from its position on Ayn Qinya hill.

19 December 1998

Between 0400 and 0600 hours two Israeli gunboats off the Abu al-Aswad locality and Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

At 0930 hours the militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at Mazra'at al-Hamra and the Murabba' area from its position at Zafatah.

At 1050 hours Israeli forces fired four 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Majdal Silm from their position at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal.

Between 1115 and 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the Western Bekaa, the North and the Shuf at high altitudes while breaking the sound barrier.

Between 1720 and 1910 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Haddatha, Shaqra and Majdal Silm from their positions at Tall Ya'qub, Saff al-Hawa, Bawwabat Mays al Jabal and Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort).

20 December 1998

Between 1215 and 1220 hours the client militia fired several 120-mm mortar shells at the area around Sujud hill from its position on Razlan hill.

Between 1300 and 1400 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar and Majdal Zun from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from south of Bustan, inside the occupied territory.

At 1915 and 1920 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired two 81-mm mortar shells, several bursts of medium-weapons fire and a direct-fire projectile at the areas around their positions at Sala'ah and Qusayr.

Between 2200 and 2320 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Kafra, Yatar, Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Mazra'at al-Hamra from their positions at Shurayfah, Tall Ya'qub, Rshaf and Shaqif al-Naml.

21 December 1998

The client militia's Kafr Tibnit crossing remained closed to vehicles and pedestrians in both directions.

Between 0900 and 1030 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm and 130-mm artillery shells at Jabal Bir al-Dahr and outlying areas of Qilya and Zillaya from their positions at Ayn Qinya, Abu Qamhah, Shurayfah and Zaghlah.

Between 1125 and 1140 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Sidon areas at high altitudes.

At 1930 hours Israeli forces fired several direct-fire projectiles and 120-mm mortar shells at the outskirts of Mlikh, areas along the Tasah Spring and Mazra'at Uqmata from their position at Ksar al-Urush.

At 2015 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas along the Bisri River and Ruwaysat al-Kassar at from its positions at Anan hill and Dahr al-Ramlah.

22 December 1998

Between 1040 and 1150 hours the client militia fired two 120-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Bayt Yahun and Ayta al-Jabal from its position at Saff al-Hawa.

At 1435 hours Israeli warplanes attacked Janta and Yahfufa with the result that in Janta an entire family was wiped out, namely the wife and six children of Muhammad Amin al-Uthman.

Between 1445 and 1930 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi Habbush, Wadi al-Saluqi and areas around Anan, Tahrah and Dabshah hills from their positions at Zafatah, Hula and Markaba and on those same hills.

Between 1525 and 1545 hours the client militia fired three 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Haddatha and Rshaf from its position at Shaqif al-Naml.

Between 1800 and 1940 hours Israeli forces fired three 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Majdal Silm and Shaqra from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort).

23 December 1998

At 0900 hours Israeli forces fired six 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Tulin and Wadi al-Qaysiyah from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Markaba and on Dabshah hill.

At 1220 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Kafra, Zibqin and Jibal al-Butm from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

Between 1330 and 1430 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

At 1840 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at areas around Suwayda hill and outlying areas of Mazra'at al-Hamra from their positions at Zafatah and on Dabshah and Burj hills.

At 2100 hours Israeli forces fired eight 155-mm artillery shells at the outskirts of Zillaya from their position at Abu Qamhah.

24 December 1998

Between 0910 and 1040 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Sidon East areas at high altitude.

Between 1010 and 1035 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

At 1210 hours Israeli forces fired nine 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Sawwanah and Majdal Silm and at Wadi al-Qaysiyah from their position at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal.

At 2145 hours the client militia fired an 81-mm mortar shell and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Mays from its position in Ayn Qinya.

25 December 1998

Between 0220 and 0625 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at the outskirts of Sujud and Rafi' from their positions at Zafatah and Bi'r Kilab.

At 1320 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yatar, Jibal al-Butm, Zibqin and Izziyah from their position at Tall Ya'qub.

Between 1400 and 1500 hours the client militia fired several 120-mm shells at areas around Sujud hill from its position on Razlan hill.

Between 1630 and 2030 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at areas around Sujud hill, outlying areas of Qabrikha, Jabal al-Rafi' and the outskirts of Luwayzah from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal, Ksar al-Urush, Zafatah and Razlan hill.

At 2205 hours the client militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at areas around its positions on Anan and Rum hills.

26 December 1998

Between 0340 and 0700 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi Habbush and outlying areas of Yuhmur from their positions at Zafatah and on Dabshah, Suwayda and Burj hills.

Between 0515 and 0600 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the area to the east of Sidon at high altitude.

Between 1240 and 2100 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at Jabal al-Rafi', Wadi Habbush and the outskirts of Sujud from their positions on Burj, Tahrah, Razlan and Dabshah hills.

Between 2200 and 2210 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several illumination flares over their position on Rum hill.

27 December 1998

Between 0005 and 0630 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 81-mm mortar shells at outlying areas of Majdal Zun from their positions on Rum and Dabshah hills.

Between 0315 and 0530 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0400 and 0500 hours some 50 81-mm shells fired from client militia positions on Mashnaqah hill and in Zafatah fell in the vicinity of Anan village.

Between 1030 and 1050 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, Mount Lebanon and the Bekaa at high altitudes.

Between 1250 and 1255 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Yuhmur al-Shaqif and Mazra'at al-Hamra from its position at Zafatah.

28 December 1998

Between 1005 and 1305 Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi' and the outskirts of Mlikh from their positions at Zafatah and Ksar al-Urush and on Sujud hill.

Between 1410 and 1505 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 120-mm and 81-mm mortar shells at Jabal al-Rafi', outlying areas of Jba' and areas along the Tasah Spring from their positions at Zafatah, Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort) and Ksar al-Urush.

At 1540 hours the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells, 120-mm mortar shells and direct-fire projectiles at outlying areas of Jba', areas along the Tasah Spring and Jabal al-Rafi' from its positions at Zafatah and on Razlan hill.

At 2130 and 2240 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired two 155-mm artillery shells and an 81-mm mortar shell at Mazra'at Uqmata, Jabal al-Rafi' and areas along the Zahrani River from their positions at Zafatah and Ksar al-Urush and on Suwayda hill.

29 December 1998

Between 0430 and 0530 hours an Israeli gunboat off Mansuri fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire in all directions.

Between 0635 and 0650 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells at the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah, at the Yuhmur lowland and at outlying areas of Mayfadun and Jabal al-Rafi' from its positions at Zafatah and Tayyikah and on Dabshah hill.

Between 1615 and 1635 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at outlying areas of Zibqin and Majdal Zun from their position at Tall Ya'qub and from south of Bustan, inside the occupied territory.

Between 2020 and 2030 hours Israeli forces fired three 155-mm artillery shells at Wadi al-Saluqi from their position at Bawwabat Markaba.

Between 2245 and 2300 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several direct-fire projectiles and 120-mm mortar shells at Sujud hill, outlying areas of Jba' and areas around Razlan hill from their positions at Ksar al-Urush and on Razlan hill itself.

30 December 1998

At 1140 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Mazra'at al-Hamra and nearby areas from their position at Shurayfah.

At 1410 hours Israeli forces fired several 155-mm artillery shells at Jabal al-Rafi' from their position at Shurayfah.

Between 1640 and 1735 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and direct-fire projectiles at the outskirts of Mlikh, areas along the Tasah Spring, Mazra'at Uqmata and Wadi Arabsalim from their positions at Shurayfah and on Suwayda hill.

At 2225 and 2320 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells at areas around their positions on Razlan and Tahrah hills.

31 December 1998

At 0020 hours Israeli forces fired four direct-fire projectiles at Jabal Bir al-Dahr from their position on Zaghlah hill.

At 1055 hours the client militia strafed the area around its position on Burj hill with medium-weapons fire.

Between 1300 and 1500 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at high altitudes.

Between 1645 and 2315 hours Israeli forces and the client militia fired several 155-mm artillery shells and 81-mm and 120-mm mortar shells and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at outlying areas of Shaqra and Majdal Silm, at areas along the Bisri River and at the abandoned Army barracks in Nabatiyah from their positions at Bawwabat Mays al-Jabal and Qal'at al-Shaqif (Château de Beaufort) and on Dabshah and Tahrah hills.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and the fresh attacks and arbitrary practices against the Lebanese civilian population that have left a number of dead and have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/793
S/1999/34
12 January 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda items 20, 105 and 110
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF
HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF
ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES: QUESTIONS
RELATING TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED
PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 11 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of
Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a press release issued on 9 January 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea on the continuing death toll of Eritreans in detention camps in Ethiopia. The Government of Ethiopia continues to grossly violate the human rights of Eritreans and Ethiopians of Eritrean origin with impunity. Although such Ethiopian crimes are amply verified by independent bodies, the international community has hitherto taken no action to stop these crimes. How many more have to die before Ethiopia is called to account for its actions against innocent lives?

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly under agenda items 20, 105 and 110, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Press release concerning deaths of Eritreans in Ethiopian
detention camps, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of Eritrea on 9 January 1999

The death list of innocent Eritreans detained in the Blatten concentration camp and other prisons in Ethiopia is increasing from time to time.

The number of Eritreans dying in detention camps in Ethiopia is much higher than was officially reported to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Yosief Ghebreab Zecarias and Fesscha Hannes are the latest and unaccounted victims of this inhumane treatment.

Yosief Ghebreab Zecarias was 25 years old and engaged in business activities in Ethiopia until he was put in Blatten concentration camp by the Ethiopian authorities. Fesscha Hannes was living a peaceful life until he was detained and brutally beaten to death by the Tigre People's Liberation Army (TPLF) cadres in prison camps in Tigray. He was the father of four children.

The Government of Eritrea has been calling repeatedly on the international community to ensure the release of the innocent Eritreans in detention in Ethiopia and for the investigation of the causes of death of those who have perished in those prison camps. But so far, the calls have fallen on deaf ears.

Similarly, the wholesale deportation of Eritreans on the basis of their ethnicity and the confiscation of their property continues without let-up. To date, over 48,000 Eritreans have been deported from Ethiopia. In the circumstances, the Government of Eritrea once again calls on the international community to deplore these gross violations of human rights and to ensure the immediate release of the Eritreans languishing in Ethiopian prison camps.



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/35
13 January 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 12 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the excerpt concerning national reunification from a joint editorial published by Rodong Sinmun, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Joson Inmingun, the organ of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces; and Chongnyon Jonwi, the organ of the Central Committee of the Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League on the New Year, Juche 88 (1999) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) LI Hyong Chol
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex

"Let this year mark a turning-
point in building a powerful
nation"

Joint editorial published by Rodong Sinmun, Joson Inmingun
and Chongnyon Jonwi on the New Year, Juche 88 (1999)

Excerpt concerning national reunification

Last year was a historic year in which the Korean nation made great progress towards national reunification under the unfurled banner of the "Fivepoint Programme for Great National Unity" laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il.

Last year, we also witnessed the separatists' unprecedented manoeuvres to foil national reunification.

Although a "change of regime" was made in south Korea, inter-Korean relations remain unchanged, and the situation of the south Korean people has become more miserable and difficult.

The economy has fallen into a state of national bankruptcy since the nation was put under trusteeship by the International Monetary Fund. The nationwide joblessness and poverty have come to represent the reality of south Korea, in which corruption holds sway.

Under the colonial and fascist regime of the United States and its subordinates, independence, democracy and reunification are unthinkable and conditions have gone so far that no one can sustain one's life. This is a conclusion that the south Korean people have drawn by themselves after a year-long test period following the start of the "people's regime" last year.

The New Year, Juche 88 (1999), is a year of weighty importance in which an epoch-making change should be made in the efforts of the Korean people for the reunification of the country.

If the cherished desire of the Korean people for national reunification is to be realized, above all, south Korea should become independent.

The south Korean people, who have undergone a half-century of colonial rule, can no longer live such a humiliating life.

The outside forces led by the United States are the target of the struggle for independence in south Korea.

The aggressive outside forces do not hesitate to use other nations as a sacrifice of war, if necessary, to further their own interests.

Anti-foreign, anti-imperialist and anti-puppet struggles should be waged vigorously throughout the country. The south Korean people's nationwide anti-foreign struggle to establish a new independent society in south Korea will inevitably break out.

"Great national unity" is a basic foundation for attaining the goal of national reunification.

The only way out for south Korea is to reject dependence on foreign forces and ally itself with communists in the north, their fellow countrymen, in order to reunify the country.

If one truly wants a reunified fatherland, one should choose not the way of dependence on foreign forces, but the way of carving out the destiny of the nation independently in cooperation with one's fellow countrymen.

The south Korean people should continue fighting to abolish all sorts of tools such as the "National Security Law", the "Unification Ministry" and the "Agency of Security Planning" - all of which block contacts, dialogue and reunification between the north and the south - until they win final victory.

If the whole nation achieves harmony and unity, this is precisely national reunification.

All the Koreans at home and abroad should be united firmly under the uplifted banner of national reunification irrespective of differences in ideology, ideals, religious belief and political views and class and social stratum.

The prospect for reunification is bright as the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il, sun of the Korean nation, is leading the "grand march for national reunification" at the front line.

With fresh confidence and courage, the entire Korean people in the north, the south and overseas will spur the national reunification movement and build a reunified, prosperous and powerful State in the near future.



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/36
13 January 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 13 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you a press release issued on
13 January 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic
Republic of Ethiopia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex
circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Duri MOHAMMED
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Press release dated 13 January 1999, issued by
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia

In a Press Statement made public on 12 January 1999, the Eritrean Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed the international community about the alleged plan by Ethiopia to "launch an attack against Eritrea".

The ostensible objective of the statement is obviously to underline how Eritrea is committed to avoiding recourse to war and to the cessation of hostilities and, in general, to peace. It does not matter for the Eritrean authorities that it is they who created the current crisis by invading Ethiopia; that they still are illegally occupying Ethiopian territory; and that there is a peace proposal by the OAU which Ethiopia has accepted and Eritrea has not. Nor is the timing of the latest Statement by Eritrea totally fortuitous.

The Eritrean authorities know that they are being pinned down on whether they are willing to withdraw from the Ethiopian territory that they have forcibly occupied. They have since the Ouagadougou OAU Summit of the Central Organ been resorting to all kinds of gimmicks to avoid responding to the peace proposal in good faith.

Obviously, Eritrea realizes that it has come to the end of the road as far as OAU's peace effort is concerned. The OAU has affirmed Eritrea is the aggressor. The OAU has said Eritrea should withdraw from Ethiopian territory. The OAU has insisted that the Ethiopian administration should return. Under these circumstances and in line with the *modus operandi* which has now become familiar, Eritrea has seen fit to encourage a shift in emphasis from the demand for its withdrawal from Ethiopian territory to talks about what Eritrea hopes would be a permanent cessation of hostilities which would consecrate its occupation of Ethiopian territory. To reiterate, these Eritrean tactics are not new. It is to be recalled that between 9 and 11 June 1998, when Eritrea launched offensives to expand its aggression at the Zalambessa, Irdemattiwos and Bure fronts, it simultaneously issued statements accusing Ethiopia of aggression.

A stranger pattern of behaviour was evidenced more recently as well. Just prior to the Ouagadougou meeting between members of the High-Level Delegation and the parties in conflict, Eritrea embarked on a wave of shellings in the border areas, around Shiraro and Adigrat.

Later as the OAU Central Organ Meeting approached - specifically on 15 December - Eritrea attacked the Mai Hamato-Belessa area in Central Tigray and, a few days later, positions in Adi Goshu. Both the November and December incidents of provocation were interspersed with taunts pushing Ethiopia to act in a reactive fashion.

Today, when all attention is focused on when the implementation of the OAU peace proposal, which is still held hostage by Eritrean intransigence, would commence, the Eritrean authorities create yet another diversion, drawing

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attention to a fictitious impending offensive by Ethiopia and turning the issue of compliance with OAU's proposals to withdraw from occupied territories to the issues of ceasefire and "moratorium" on air strikes.

Could this also be a smokescreen behind which Eritrea would launch a wider aggression? This may very well be. Is it the familiar story of a leadership resisting being pinned down to implement the OAU proposals and issuing in lieu of that, diversionary statements? That may also very well be. Whatever the objectives may be they have no chance of succeeding.

Eritrea would be better off choosing the path of peace, in which case what would be expected of it is to cooperate with the OAU and accept its peace proposal.
